

Meeting Minutes of Horningtoft Parish Council
Wednesday 8th January at 7.30pm at St Edmunds Church, Horningtoft

Present: Parish Councillors: Andrew Hill (Chairperson), Tracey Hawke (Vice-Chairperson), and Simon Hibberd

Also, present: Donna Secker (Parish Clerk), 3 members of the public

Cllr Hill welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence

Cllr Chapman and Cllr Drew sent their apologies, these were accepted. County Cllr Kiddle-Morris sent his apologies.

2. To consider any declarations of interest

No declaration of interest received

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2024

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the last meeting as a true record, and it was signed by the Chairman.

4. To receive any brief updates from County and District Councillor

County Cllr Kiddle-Morris report can be found on the website.

District Cllr Hunter-Clarke apologised for not attending meetings since May but will be happy to reply to any direct contact.

District Cllr Hunter-Clarke reported that on Thursday 9th January, there will be a vote to decide on the Devolution deal. This is the government's mission for economic growth and wants every area to have the opportunity to benefit from new powers. If the vote is successful then the elections will be delayed for up to 2 years. If the vote is against then everything will remain the same. Cllr Hunter-Clarke informed the Council that Breckland is the only District currently not in debt but if the deal goes ahead then this will undo all the good work of Breckland's finances and a large increase might hit the Council Tax charges.

District Cllr updated the Council regarding the illegal caravan site near Stanfield. The enforcement officers are currently in the process of serving an injunction order

5. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public

A parishioner updated the Council regarding the flooding on Oxwick Road. It was confirmed that the Culvert under the road is clear and flowing continuously. The Parishioners have been investigating the water in the road and confirmed that this is now a puddle and not flooding due to staying a consistent size and upon inspection, the road has a dip in the surface which is why there is a puddle in the road.

Unfortunately, the ditches were cleared today (corkscrew system) and this has left a pile of mud which potentially may block or damage the culvert. This is a common complaint that the Council reports yearly to the County Cllr Kiddle-Morris.

A parishioner raised concerns about the speeding on Whissonsett and Church Road. A vehicle has been regularly seen to be speeding and is not respecting pedestrians walking with aids as

this road does not have any pathways. The Council will monitor this and will temporarily track the speeding of vehicles. The Clerk will action this.

6. To report and update on highways

The Clerk reported to the Council that the village sign has still not been moved. The Clerk will chase this up again with the County Cllr and push for this to be moved before the end of the financial year as this cost will be coming from the County's budget. District Cllr Hunter-Clarke will support the Council with this project.

7. To update the council on the progress of the speed reduction

The request from the Parish Council to reduce the speed limit on B1146 has been declined. District Cllr Hunter-Clarke will work with the Council and continue to progress with fighting for a speed reduction.

8. To update the Council on the septic tank (Church Farm Holiday lets)

The Council have received an update on the repairs to the septic tank and it was confirmed that is now working efficiently.

The Treatment plant scheme has seen 21 households register within Horningtoft. The survey will be carried out within the next few months. However, once the survey has been carried out, homeowners will no longer be able to further register. If you are interested, please contact the Clerk and she will put you in touch with the company for registration.

9. Applications

9.1 To receive planning applications from Breckland District

9.2 To receive an update on application decisions taken by Breckland District Council

10. Finance

10.1 To approve the list of payments for January 2025

The Council agreed to the payments for January 2025 and approved the list of payments below

10.2 To review and discuss the projected budgets and precept for 2025-26

The Council approved the projected budgets for 2025-26 and discussed raising the precept by £200. The Precept will now be £2,400 for the next financial year.

11. To receive items for the next meeting agenda Wednesday 12th March 2025

Update on the speed reduction.

Meeting Closed 20.20

Cheque number	Cheque payable to	Reason for Payment	Cheque amount
	D.K.Secker-Nov & Dec	Salary	£181.77
	Keith Walpole	Grass cutting	£220.00
	Total		£401.77